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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Arling et al.)
Serial No.: 09/718,931) Examiner: not yet assigned
Filed: November 21, 2000) Group Art Unit: 2711
Title: MEDIA RETURN SYSTEM) Docket No.: 81230.578001

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified patent application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action; therefore, no fee is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(2)(i), a copy of each U.S. patent listed on Form 1449 is enclosed herewith.

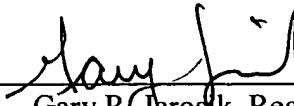
Also in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(2)(iii) copies of the U.S. patent applications listed on Form 1449 (09/418,091 and 09/611,620) are not enclosed herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.104, no representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 and Applicant reserves the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicant does not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

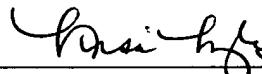
Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 20, 2001

By: 

Gary R. Jarosik, Reg. No. 35,906
ALTHEIMER & GRAY
10 S. Wacker Drive/Suite 4000
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 715-4000

Certificate of Mailing: The undersigned hereby certifies that this document and its enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 20th day of April, 2001.

By: 

Name: Lisa Lyle



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IN THE UNITED STATES
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PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant(s): **S. Freeman**

Case: **SAR 13471**

Serial No.: **09/470,501**

Filed: **December 22, 1999**

Group Art Unit: **2711**

Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SMOOTHING SPLICED
DISCONTINUOUS AUDIO STREAMS**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

S I R:

Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R.1.97(e) (1) Certification

The applicants respectfully request that the following references be considered in the examination of the above-identified application. These references were uncovered by a search recently conducted by the European Patent Office acting as the International Searching Authority in applicants' counterpart PCT patent application. The mailing date of the Search Report is March 29, 2001 and this Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of that date. A copy of each reference that is designated as category "X", "Y" or "L", the International Search Report and a completed PTO-1449 is enclosed.

4-30-01
Date

By

Raymond R. Moser Jr., Attorney
Reg. No. 34,682
(732) 530-9404

Thomason, Moser and Patterson, LLP
595 Shrewsbury Avenue, First Floor
Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on April 30, 2001 with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Kathy Ybarra

Signature

4-30-01

Date of signature



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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	09/718,931
		Filing Date	11/21/2000
		First Named Inventor	Arlingl. ;
		Group Art Unit	2711
		Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	81230.588001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office,